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Newsletter #97:

What's New at Shanna Schmidt Numismatics Inc.

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday, whichever one you celebrate. I come from a mixed bag so we do Hanukkah and Christmas which results in just a lot of celebrating! I'm looking forward to a good 2019. I hope that this brings lots of great opportunities to find the coins you are looking for. As my business begins to grow I'm acquiring a lot more material so every now and then consider taking a look at my site. I always appreciate hearing how your collecting needs may have changed so let me know important information as you need.

Stolen Coins - Leu Numismatik

Some of you may have become aware that I recently had three coins stolen en route to a customer in Europe. My suspicion is that they were stolen somewhere in Zurich. The reason is that the package was reported there for several days and then ended up with my customer but minus the coins.

The reason I mention this is because we as a community need to help one another to rid ourselves of thieves out there crippling our collections. Hearing about a firm having coins stolen is a sickening feeling for me, ancient coins particularly so. We are such a small community of collectors. It astounds me that people actually think they can get away with it (and unfortunately in many cases do). Please keep your eyes open for the 586 coins that were stolen on Christmas Eve at the Leu Numismatik offices in Winterthur, Switzerland. Some of them are so specialized that it really would surprise me if you didn't see them.

Here is a link to the coins stolen:

<https://leunumismatik.com/9382hf3wj98fcwq0u721sdcc>

CNG E-Auction 435 (closing January 2, 2019)

CNG will have a busy next few weeks with their electronic auction 435 and the long awaited Triton XXII (described below). The e-auction will have 676 ancient and world coins plus a few antiquities. Of special note are a few collections: one of countermarked coins from Richard Baker. Some may see them as an eyesore or an imperfection, but countermarks are intrinsically interesting to a coin's history. They tell a story; sometimes clear and others times it simply remains an enigma. Another interesting collection being offered is one of 26 electrotype and forgeries from Jonathan K. Kern. Kern, who is a semi-retired dealer, also has formed some interesting collections in recent years. Most of us would never dream to buy a forgery but there is a market out there, particularly for the famous forgers from the past, Carl Wilhelm Becker (1772-1830) or Constantin Christodoulos (c. early 1900's). They were artists in their own strange way and their distinctive styles have become a popular collecting route. Museums also use to make electrotypes of their special coins for museum visitors. The word "copy" would typically be placed on the edge of the coin to make it clear that it was not an original. This however did not stop conmen from attempting to sell them to unsuspecting collectors. Electrotypes are a thing of the past but continue to circulate in the coin market. And of course there are the anonymous "artists" who have created dies that deceive the public but aren't known to us other than by a small error or countermark. There are lots of genuine coins in the CNG E-Auction so if Triton has you feeling shut out by the competition this might be the better solution to finding a great coin.

Numismatik Naumann E-Auction 73 (January 6)

Naumann has a large e-auction closing on the 6th of January with 1,020 coins. The largest segment consist of Greek coins with 257 pieces being offered. There are also a large number of group lots (167). Naumann has reasonable opening prices and while competition can be fierce there are great opportunities to acquire less pricey ancient coins. Group lots are particularly nice because often one can find a diamond in the rough. Group lots typically are just coins that might not be deemed "good enough" for regular auction but absolutely should not be dismissed. Case in point, lot 875, a small group of obols from Boeotia that are pedigreed from the BCD collection.

<https://www.sixbid.com/browse.html?auction=5535&category=179631&lot=4630446>

If you have the time and patience to verify and catalog the coins it is worth it.

The New York International Trade Show (January 4-13, 2019 with bourse activities taking place Thursday-Sunday, January 10-13, 2019)

I've discussed this show in the past newsletters so I will just say that I'm looking forward to seeing many of you there. While I will be busy with auctions and the show, I am never too busy to take your questions or bids.

<http://nyinc.info/>

I'm pleased to be an exhibitor at this show for my second year. I can be found at BOOTH 1600. When the Waldorf Astoria closed to undergo renovations the show moved to the Grand Hyatt Hotel, located at 109 East 42nd Street, New York, NY 10022, between Park and Lexington Avenues. The Grand Hyatt also enjoys a direct indoor connection to Grand Central Station, the terminal point for commuter lines of the Metro North System. There are also direct indoor connections to multiple stations of the New York City subway system. Generally the show has gotten much easier to attend and there are

a lot more options for dealers for socializing after the show. There will be 115 dealers attending this show so I hope to see some of you attending. Please get in touch with me should you have any questions.

Heritage Auctions (January 6-7 in 4 separate sessions)

Somehow Heritage manages to pull together fantastic numbers of coins for their various auctions. This is no exception. Heritage will hold four sessions over the course of two days in New York. They will sell 2,297 coins. The ancient portion (662 coins) is the third session and takes place in the in the Empire Ballroom at 9 a.m. on January 7. I attended last year's NY sale and was pretty surprised at some of the hammer prices. I believe that there are a few very strong buyers that influence the auction. One never knows if the situation last year will be the same for this so I would say that if you are interested in anything you should definitely take part. Going through the lots I found a number of them that are very nice. Most of the coins are encapsulated so I won't be able to view the edges of the coins which I normally am able. I will be arriving in NY on the 6th and after checking in will go straight to lot viewing so anyone interested in any lots just make sure to get me your list by the morning of the 6th.

CNG - Triton XXII (January 8-9 in 4 separate sessions)

Under new management, CNG is holding their Triton XXII in four sessions over two days. There are 1,456 coins being offered. The most are ancient but there are also quite a few British (96) and world (105) on offer. There are more coins from the Mike Gasvoda collection being offered. Many of these coins have illustrious pedigrees along with fantastic strikes. There are an abundance of beautiful south Italian and Sicilian coinage. Additionally some high end coins from the MNL Seleucid collection are included. Some great rarities can be found within. There is also an extensive collection of pedigreed Republican coins being offered from the Alan Harlan collection. I'll be viewing these coins starting on the 6th so please try to get me your lots of interest by the morning that day.

The New York Sale (collaboration of Goldberg, M&M USA, Markov and Sovereign Rarities) Auction 45-47 (January 8-10)

The New York Sale collaboration is made up of four firms. Auction 45 on January 8 is the auction that will encompass ancient coins. This auction is a manageable one with 305 coins. There is an extension collection of Judaeen coins being offered with even all five years of the the First Jewish Revolt included. I noticed several old pedigrees as well. The auction on the 9th will be dedicated to world coins and the 10th is Russian coins, medals and orders. I will be attending this auction so please get in touch if you have interest in any coins.

Stacks, Bowers & Ponterio Auction A, B and C (January 11-12)

There are three sessions with the last beginning with ancient coins. As with Heritage, most of the ancients are encapsulated so edges can not be viewed. The focus with this auction house is typically not on ancients but there are some interesting pieces being offered so it is definitely worth checking out. I will be available for bidding if any customers is interested.



Coin of the Week

<https://www.shannaschmidt.com/roman-empire/domitilla-daughter-of-vespasian-rome-82-3-ad?rq=re1070>

Domitilla, Daughter of Vespasian. Rome, 82-3 AD

AR Denarius, 3.50g (18mm, 6h). DIVA DOMITILLA AVGVSTA Draped bust r., hair in long plait at back / FORTVNA AVGVST Fortuna standing l., holding cornucopiae and rudder.

Pedigree: Ex NAC 40, 16 May 2007, lot 684

Price: \$13,950.00

When this coin was struck, Domitilla was already long dead. She was the only daughter of Vespasian and Flavia Domitilla and sister to Titus and Domitian. When she died at the tender age of 21 her father had not yet become emperor. She was deified by her brother Domitian and renamed Augusta. Fortuna, shown on the reverse was the goddess of fortune and luck.

References: RIC Titus 71. BMC Titus 137. C 3. CBN –

Grade: Lovely toning and sharp strike on the obverse. Reverse is pleasant but softly struck. EF/VF+

re1070

<https://www.shannaschmidt.com/roman-empire/domitilla-daughter-of-vespasian-rome-82-3-ad?rq=re1070>

If you are interested in this coin please click the link above or email me at shanna@shannaschmidt.com

Until next week!
Shanna

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